

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8203

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 08640

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SAIGON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FR, VS, SREF, SWEL

SUBJECT: QUAI COMMENTS ON GOF APRIL 5 COMMUNIQUE

REF: PARIS 8538

1. ON APRIL 7 QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR ASIA BOLLE MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON GOF APRIL 5 COMMUNIQUE ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND EFFORTS FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. BOLLE COMMENTED THAT GOF HAD IN 1973 DEMONSTRATED ITS INTEREST IN PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN AID TO THE SVN POPULATION IN PRG AS WELL AS GVN ZONES. THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THIS POLICY. GOF HAD WORKED WITH PRG REPRESENTATIVE PHAM VAN BA CONCERNING MODALITIES OF THE AID. ALTHOUGH ALL DETAILS OF THIS "URGENT" AID HAD NOT BEEN WORKED OUT, THEY WERE THINKING IN TERMS OF USING FRENCH PLANES TO CARRY THE AID TO VIENTIANE AND EFFECTING DISTRIBUTION FROM THERE. IN
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THE CASE OF THE PRG, IT MIGHT MAKE ITS OWN ARRANGEMENTS

FOR ONWARD TRANSPORT. BOLLE COMMENTED THAT SUCH TECHNICAL MATTERS WERE BEING WORKED OUT BETWEEN CHAYET AND BA.

2. BOLLE SAID THAT FRANCE HAD PREVIOUSLY NO VICE CONSUL IN DANANG. WITH THE DETERIORATION IN THE MILITARY SITUATION, AMBASSADOR MERILLON SENT PERSONNEL FROM THE COUNSUL GENERAL'S STAFF TO VARIOUS CITIES, AND VICE CONSUL DILLEMANN REMAINED ON IN DANANG AFTER ITS CAPTURE. THE REFERENCE TO "THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES" IN DANANG REFERS TO THE "JURIDICAL" AUTHORITIES WHICH BA SAID THE PRG WAS SETTING UP TO ADMINISTER THE ZONE "IT" NOW OCCUPIES. BA SAID THAT THESE ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRG AND OF THE FORCES OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. BOLLE ADMITTED "DE FACTO" AUTHORITIES MIGHT BE DRV MILITARY.

3. BOLLE COMMENTED THAT WASHINGTON WAS WELL AWARE OF FRENCH EFFORTS TO ASSIST IN ARRIVING AT A POLITICAL SOLUTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM. GOF STILL HELD THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT, WHILE NOT PERFECT AND VIOLATED BY BOTH SIDES, WAS OF VALUE/IF THE AGREEMENT WERE ABANDONED THERE WOULD BE NOTHING AT ALL LEFT. BOLLE NOTED THAT THE DRV AND PRG CONTINUED TO REFER TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT EVEN UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH WERE NOW MILITARILY IN THEIR FAVOR. BOLLE SAID THAT GOF HAD DECIDED TO INCREASE THE TEMPO OF ITS POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND CITED THE APRIL 7 MEETING BETWEEN BROSSOLETTE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ELYSEE, WITH DRV AMBASSADOR VO VAN SUNG, ABOUT WHICH HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPORT.
RUSH

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